

12/12/77
UNCLASSIFIED

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

BRIEFING MEMORANDUM

BI 014
B.A.R.
1/12

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

SS

☒ Release () Excise () Deny

Exemption(s):

Declassify: () In Part ☒ In Full

() Classify as () Extend as () Downgrade to

Date Declassify on Reason

(3) 4

TO: The Acting Secretary

FROM: ARA - William P. Stedman, Acting

SUBJECT: Progress on Human Rights in Argentina

Ambassador Castro, in his initial round of courtesy calls on Argentine government leaders, has received encouraging signs that the GOA may be moving to meet some of our human rights concerns. Specifically, he received assurances from Interior Minister Harguindeguy that U.S. consular officers could visit prisoners to complete preparations for right of option petitions. He was also informed by the Minister that Argentina may release some 375 prisoners in a Christmas amnesty. In addition, the Argentines have given permission for the ICRC to resume visits to prisoners in jails and military installations. These visits will be resumed on December 12.

If and when implemented, these Argentine moves might make it possible for us to reconsider our "no" votes in the IFIs and our hold up on military sales.

Drafted: ARA/ECA:JNEumpus:jg
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